Shortage of Coins

1429. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there had been wide gap between the supply and demand of coins which had compelled Government to import coins;

(b) if so, what are the details of demand and production of coins during the last three years alongwith the details of import made during that period; and

(c) what steps have been taken to meet the demand through domestic production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) There had been some gap between the supply and demand of coins and to bridge the gap Government imported coins. The details of demand placed by Reserve Bank of India, domestic production and import made during the last three years are as under:

(all figures in million pieces)

Year (April-March) (A)	RBI's Demand (B)	Domestic Production (C)	Imports (D)	Total Supply (C+D)
2000-2001	8000	3053	863	3916
2001-2002	6500	3592	1570	5162
2002-2003	4500	3627	270	3897

(c) The Government has taken the following steps to meet the demand through domestic production:

(i) The India Government Mints at Mumbai, Kolkata and Hyderabad have been modernised.

(ii) The Bank Note of Rs. 5 denomination has been re-introduced during the year 2001-2002.